inhabiting Shikarpur area of Nadia thereby creating panic and turning situation tense and more than 10,000 residents of villagers along border in South Dinajpur have been pushed to an uncertain future as reported in the "Hindustan Times dated 25th June, 2001;

(b) if so, whether Government have ascertained veracity of these press reports and other undesirable mischievous activities of BDR along Indo-Bangladesh border; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and the measures taken to ensure that Indians at our borders live peacefully and no harassment is caused to them by BDR ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Registration (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2000

3994. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Karnataka Legislature has passed the Registration (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2000 and sent it for the assent to the President of India; and

(b) if so, when was it sent ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Registration (Karnataka Amendment) Bill, 2000 has been assented to by the President on 25th July, 2001 and the State Government informed accordingly.

Changing the mode of Execution

3995. SHRI RAJU PARMAR :

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR :

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government is contemplating to change the mode of execution through hanging to some other method;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government are aware that in many developed countries the mode of execution is by injecting lethal dose of chemicals which is considering civilised in society; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and whether Government propose to constitute Committee of Experts to resolve this issue and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI) : (a) to (d) Section 354 (5) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 provides that when a person is sentenced to death, the sentence shall direct that he be hanged by the neck till he is dead.

In Deena *alias* Deen Dayal Vs. Union of India AIR 1983 SC 1155, the Supreme Court held that the method prescribed under section 354(5) of the Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 for executing the death sentence does not violate the provision contained in article 21 of the Constitution of India. The Government is neither contemplating change in the method of execution nor constituting any group in this regard.

Frequent power failure in NDMC, DIZ Area

3996. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that frequent power failure occurs in the NDMC, DIZ area, Sector-4, Raja Bazar, New Delhi;

(b) whether it is a fact that the power disturbances are due to power theft by people residing in jhuggies near Block No. 6, Sector 4, Raja Bazar, New Delhi; and

(c) what action Government propose to take in the matter to solve the problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO) (a) : It was only on five occasions in the months of July and August, 2001 that there was an interruption for short durations in supply of electricity in the area. This was caused mainly because of heavy rains and large scale digging for laying fibre optics cables, etc.

(b) and (c) Unauthorised drawal of electric supply does to some extent adversely affect regular supply of electricity. Such unauthorized connections are removed as and when noticed. Besides, preventive maintenance has been stepped up to minimise breakdowns in the supply of electricity.